

REMARKS

Applicants' attorney hereby elects Group I (claims 1-4) with traverse.

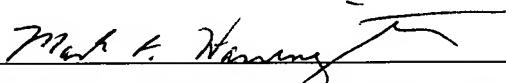
The examiner is requested to reconsider his restriction requirement. The examiner cites PCT Rule 13.1 as a basis for his restriction. However, during the International Phase of this application, there was no unity of invention restriction raised. The examiner during the International Phase believed that there was unity of invention between claims 1-4 and claims 5-13. The USPTO, by failing to abide by the International Phase examiner's determination appears to be violating the PCT treaty. The examiner in the International Phase examined all of the claims. Thus, there is no undue burden for the U.S. examiner to continue examination of all of the claims of the application. In addition, the examiner has not identified any different classifications for the two groups of claims which would justify restriction. In addition, with the amendment above, the rational for the restriction stated by the examiner in the restriction office action is no longer present. The claims listed in Groups I and II relate to a single general inventive concept; they contain the same or corresponding special technical features. The examiner's rational for restriction is not valid. The examiner is requested to reconsider his restriction requirement.

Claim 14 has been added to claim the separating feature as a dependent claim.

Appl. No.: 10/511,792  
Reply to Office Action of: 12/13/2005

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issue remain, the examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark F. Harrington (Reg. No. 31,686)

1/9/06

Date

Customer No.: 29683  
Harrington & Smith, LLP  
4 Research Drive  
Shelton, CT 06484-6212  
203-925-9400

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

1/9/2006  
Date

Elaine F. Main  
Name of Person Making Deposit